

Rainbow Ready News



Operation Iraqi Freedom 3 - Mobilization Information Issue 5

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Know Your Rainbow History The Cold War Years

During the Cold War years, the division assisted communities during numerous emergencies while actively training for its wartime mission. In March 1970 the division federalized during the national postal strike and later provided relief to New Yorkers in the aftermath of Hurricane Agnes in 1972. Rainbow Soldiers took over the New York prison system in 1979 during a corrections officers' strike. In December 1989, the Rainbow Division headquarters moved from New York City to Troy, New York, where it remains

In 1991, hundreds of Rainbow Soldiers volunteered and served during the Gulf War. In addition, the division provided an opposing force at the Army's National Training Center to better prepare units for deployment overseas. The division Soldiers performed so well they received the Army's prestigious Hanby Trophy, the first National Guard unit to ever do so.



The 42nd Division returned to its roots as a multistate division in 1993 when it consolidated with elements of the 26th and 50th Divisions to form one National Guard Division. The division now has units in ten different states, including New York, Vermont, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Delaware, Kentucky, Florida and Illinois. Michigan joins the Rainbow Division as the tenth supporting state in October of 2004.

Division Soldiers have repeatedly responded to local needs during emergencies with more state active duty missions in the 1990s than ever before in the Rainbow's history. The division participated in the northeastern states' disaster response for blizzards and floods in 1996, fires in 1997, the devastating ice storm and New York's tornado recovery in 1998, and the Y2K contingency and snowstorm and hurricane responses in 1999 and 2000.

Look for more stories from former Rainbow Soldiers in future

Iraqi Handover Completed Early; Sovereignty Returned to Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq -- The U.S.-led coalition transferred sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government today, speeding up the move by two days in an apparent bid to surprise insurgents who may have tried to sabotage the step toward self rule.

Legal documents handing over sovereignty were handed over by U.S. governor L. Paul Bremer to interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi in a small ceremony attended by about a half dozen Iraqi and coalition officials in the heavily guarded Green Zone.

"This is a historical day," Allawi said during the ceremony. "We feel we are capable of controlling the security situation." Bremer will leave Iraq sometime Monday, coalition officials said on condition of anonymity.

Although the interim government will have full sovereignty, it will operate under major restrictions -- some of them imposed at the urging of the influential Shiite clergy which sought to limit the powers of an un-elected administration.

The new government's major tasks will be to prepare for elections by Jan. 31, handle the day to day running of the country and work along with the U.S.-led multinational force. which is responsible for security. The Iraqis can in principle ask the foreign troops to leave -- although it is unlikely this will happen.

However, the United States and its partners hope that the transfer of sovereignty will serve as a psychological boost for Iraqis, who have been increasingly frustrated by and hostile to foreign military occupation. U.S. officials hope that Iraqis will believe that they are now in control of their country and that will take the steam out of the insurgency.

Army To Add Upper-Arm Protection To Interceptor Body Armor System

ARLINGTON, Va.— Soldiers in Iraq will start getting an addition to their Interceptor body armor systems this fall: a set of pads that cover and protect the upper arm and armpit area.

Dubbed Deltoid and axillary Protection (the deltoid is the muscle that runs along the top of the upper arm; axillary refers to the area in or near the armpit), the detachable pads can stop penetration of shrapnel from a large fragmentary round, or a bullet up to 9 millimeter, Brig. Gen. James R. Moran said June 21 at the Pentagon.

The Army plans to send 50,000 sets of pads to Iraq beginning in late September, said Moran, who is head of Program Executive Office Soldier (PEO Soldier), the Army's Fort Belvoir, Va.-based development center for advanced soldier equipment.

RAINBOW AIRMAN AIMS HIGH

Story and photo by: SPC Christopher Connelly



Master Sgt. Shawn Peno, of the 202nd Weather Flight, Massachusetts Air National Guard, Otis Air Guard Base is assigned to the Rainbow Division as the Weather Liaison Officer.

Fort Drum, NY -- One of the militaries hidden factors whether in training or wartime is the weather. The weather can make a significant difference on a mission no matter if it's in the jungles of South America or the Iraqi desert, the weather can make or break a mission.

The Rainbow Division is not just formed by multiple states, it is also made up of multiple services. Even Air Force personnel wear the Rainbow shoulder insignia, like Master Sgt. Shawn Peno from the 202nd Weather Flight, Massachusetts Air National Guard, from Otis Air Guard Base. He works for Major John Hanavan, the Staff Weather Officer, also known as the 'SWO' and his job is to forecast the weather throughout different parts of the world.

The SWO is responsible for coordinating operational weather support to tactical commanders and weather service matters. Provided on request by the Air Force, his responsibilities are to advise the Rainbow commander on Air Force weather capabilities, support limitations, and the ways weather information can enhance combat operations. He evaluates and disseminates weather data, including forecasts, warnings, advisories, and miscellaneous weather and meteorology data,

monitors the overall weather support mission for the commander and acts as the commander's agent to identify and resolve weather support responsibilities. The SWO also advises the Air Force on the operational weather support requirements of the supported Army command, participates in targeting meetings, prepares climatological studies and analyzes them in support of planned exercises, operations, and commitments. He also assists Army aircraft accident investigation boards.

A decade ago, computers were very rudimentary so everything was done by paper or teletypes and sent to the SWO with a series of surface charts that could reach from one end of a building to the other. "If you had a computer you were considered high speed", said Peno. Now, Peno uses satellite images and surface charts to forecast the weather. With advancements in technology, this specific career field is drawing down, explained Peno, eventually there will be no need for the weather observers.

One of the advancements is the NIPERNET, a Non-classified Routing Network, which has existed and has been used on Hill AFB for a long time, according to Master Sgt. Raymond Moore, 75th Communications Squadron Help Desk. It is made up of leased communications lines and circuits managed by the Defense Information Service Agency. These communication lines are used to join all Department of Defense organizations into a single dedicated data network.

At this time, Peno is attached to the 42nd Infantry Division headquarters where he is in charge of forecasting the weather at Fort Drum, Fort Hood, Fort Stewart and Fort Dix where Rainbow Soldiers are currently training for mobilization to Iraq. His job along with approximately 14 other forecasters that will be joining the Division will be to give a five-day forecast at those locations, but this is not abnormal for Peno. He has been assigned to the Army his entire military career. "This is nothing new to me" said Peno, who joined the military in 1991 and was deployed to Bosnia in 1996 with the 1st Armored Division, Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Even though his stripes are different, he is more Army than Air Force. "I feel awkward when I'm on an Air Force Base because of being with the Army for so long" said Peno, "I joke around and say I make a better Platoon Sergeant than I do an Air Force NCO". "I knew from the day I swore in that I would be with the 42nd Infantry Division, so I was prepared to deploy at some time, that is why I volunteered to go to Iraq with the Rainbow Division" said Peno.

Rainbow Division Base Mobilizes: Building the 42nd Division Team

The 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division will mobilize more than 3,000 Soldiers for Operation Iraqi Freedom III this year.

Rainbow Soldiers will conduct fullspectrum military operations to return stability to Iraq and create economic development, restore essential services and allow for the transition to a democratically elected Iraqi representative government.

The Rainbow Division units mobilizing for Operation Iraqi Freedom consist of the 42nd Infantry Division Headquarters, which will provide the command and control,

logistics and the operational base for maneuver brigades to succeed in their mission. The Soldiers are all part of the Multinational Corps—Iraq effort to establish a safe and secure environment in Iraq.

Other 42nd Infantry Division units to mobilize include the 42nd Aviation and Engineer Brigade Headquarters, the 642nd Military Intelligence Battalion, the 642nd Division Aviation Support Battalion, the 42nd Rear Operations Cell and 42nd Division Band from New York, the Division Artillery Headquarters, the 42nd

Military Police Company, the 272nd Chemical Company and Battery E (Target Acquisition), 101st Field Artillery from Massachusetts, the Division Support Command Headquarters, the 50th Main Support Battalion, 250th Signal Battalion and the 1st Battalion, 150th General Aviation Support Battalion from New Jersey, the 173rd Long Range Surveillance Detachment from Rhode Island, a detachment from the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion from Florida and Company B, 1-150th Aviation from Delaware.

RAINBOW CHAPLAIN GIVES COMFORT AND SUPPORT TO TROOPS

Story by MSG Corine Lombardo

Fort Drum, NY -- One of the best ways to keep a Soldier's morale and spiritual health elevated is by attending religious services made available by the Rainbow Division.

As most Soldiers are on the move and spread out in numerous locations, the 42nd Infantry Division Chaplain makes it a point to travel throughout the battlefield providing spiritual comfort and guidance. "We are a ministry of presence, said Chaplain (LTC) Lee Hardgrove, 42nd ID Chaplain. "We go to the Soldiers and it's important that they see they have a ministry team in the field with them".

In addition to providing comprehensive religious support to Soldiers, the Chaplain and his Unit Ministry Team, which includes his assistants, SSGs John Duffy and Colleen Grzelewski, advise the Commander and his staff on all religious matters to Soldiers. These include religion, ethics, morals and morale as they pertain to the religious implications of policies and action of US military forces. Additionally, they identify and advise the Commander and staff on religious customs and sensitivities of the host country's local population with regard to Soldier conduct.

In an environment where over 97% of the population follows Islam, a belief based on the submission to the will of God (Allah) that governs everything from politics to crime and punishment to morality in daily life. "It is important that our Soldiers understand that Iraqi religious and civil law are synonymous with each other. The Koran is the guide for much of the civil law as well as religious law and customs," said Chaplain Hardgrove, adding, "Soldiers need to be instructed in this type of culture which is very different from our own. Muslim clerics influence the operation of the society much more than clergy in our own culture does."

As a non-combatant, his specific support to the troops encompasses non-denominational pastoral and casualty care, counseling, battle fatigue and suicide intervention. Chaplains also provide prayer comfort and administer sacraments to



The 42nd ID Hqs Unit Ministry Team, from left: SSG John Duffy, Chaplain (LTC) Lee Hardgrove and SSG Colleen Grzelewski.

wounded and dying personnel, conduct memorial services and critical incident stress management, visitation, prayer and worship. "One of the toughest parts of my job is the responsibility of notifying our service members that a death, tragedy or other family emergency has occurred while they are deployed to establish a safe and secure environment in Iraq". Hardgrove said.

The duties of a Chaplain's Assistant can be complicated, since they are required to maintain a passive approach while administering to Soldiers needs and at the same time be armed and ready to react and protect the Chaplain should he find himself in danger. "There is a fine line between being an effective NCO and training Soldiers to survive in combat and still be available when they need to talk about personal issues", said SSG Grzelewski.

Using a multi-faith calendar, the Division Chaplain notifies the command of all faith group religious obligations, such as high holy days and dietary restrictions that may affect the performance of military personnel. The Unit Ministry Team can also provide service members with religious items such as Rosaries, Bibles and devotional material if needed and available.

Chaplain Hardgrove gained a tremendous amount of experience throughout his deployment to New York City in 2001 after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

The 42nd Infantry Division maintained oversight of over 1.800 Soldiers. Airmen. Marines and NY's volunteer state Guard for months after call up by NYS Governor George Pataki. "They called it a crime scene, I called it a battlefield, Hardgrove said. "The ministry provided was the same as in a combat situation." Our Soldiers were dealing with spiritual and patriotic issues as well as coping with emotional concerns from something never previously experienced by the majority of Soldiers involved in the emergency response, said Hardgrove. Adding "Our work at ground zero helped us prepare for this deployment, although the casualties were not military, we were

dealing with the same battle fatigue, stress and uncertainty as our Soldiers face now and in the future".

"No matter where you are or whatever situation you find yourself in, you can still pray and know that if you need to talk, we will do everything possible to make ourselves available to you", stressed Hardgrove.

Other members of the Rainbow Division Ministry team are Chaplain (MAJ) Allen Ferry and SSG John Monaco of the Aviation Bde; Chaplain (MAJ) Joanne Martendale and SSG Anthony Mauro from the DISCOM; Chaplain (MAJ) Glenn McQuown and SGT Jerry Swain from the Engineer Bde.



SSG Colleen Grzelewski , 42nd ID Hqs Unit Ministry Team guards a military check point while training at Ft. Drum, NY *Photos by SSG Peter Towse*

Rainbow Religious Services FORT DRIM

| | FORT DRUM | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Protestant Service | Sundays, 0915 hrs | Riva Ridge |
| Protestant Service | Sundays, 0930 hrs | Post Chapel |
| Protestant Service | Sundays, 1845 hrs | Chapel 4 |
| Gospel Service | Sundays, 1230 hrs | Post Chapel |
| Catholic Mass | Saturdays, 1700 hrs | Post Chapel |
| Catholic Mass | Sundays, 1100 hrs | Post Chapel |
| Catholic Mass/Spanish | Saturdays, 1830 hrs | Post Chapel |
| Jewish Service | 1st & 3rd Friday, 1845 hrs | Po Valley |
| Jewish Service | 2nd & 4th Friday, 1845 hrs | Chapel 4 |
| | | |

FORT DIX

| TOKIDIA | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Sundays, 0730 hrs | Chapel 5 |
| Sundays, 0900 hrs | Main Chapel |
| Sundays, 1000 hrs | Chapel 5 |
| Sundays, 1130 hrs | Chapel 5 |
| Sundays, 0900 hrs | Chapel 5 |
| Sundays, 1015 hrs | Main Chapel |

2nd & 4th Fridays, 1800 hrs Main Chapel Muslim Prayer Tues & Thurs, 1200 hrs Main Chapel

Page 4

Army Colonel tries different approach to bring security to Iraq

ABU GHRAIB, Iraq -- Lt. Col. Tim Ryan tried the carrot, and he tried the stick to put down insurgents fighting U.S. troops in his region west of Baghdad. In the end, he found what worked best is a little respect.

He reached out to the tribal and religious leaders in the town of Abu Ghraib and offered a new beginning - in which they would be partners, not adversaries. So far, the deal has worked, and is being looked at as a potential model for when Iraqis regain sovereignty June 30.

As in Fallujah and Najaf, where American commanders have accepted deals to end fighting, the key to Ryan's formula was to figure out who had the real power and find ways to work with them - even if it meant setting aside some demands.

Ryan, commander of the 2nd Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment from Fort Hood, Texas, took control of the Abu Ghraib district in March. There were ambushes daily, insurgents put bombs along the highway several times a day, and at night guerrillas fired rockets and mortars at Baghdad International Airport, home to thousands of U.S. personnel.

Intent on winning over the town's 80,000 residents, Ryan initially went to neighborhood councils and offered millions of dollars in improvement projects. But he insisted no rebuilding could begin until the attacks stopped. The council members just shrugged their shoulders and blamed the violence on outsiders.

In the first week of April, violence came to a head. Militants ambushed two U.S. convoys on the highway through Abu Ghraib, killing and kidnapping American contractors and troops. And instead of running, this time the insurgents dug in for battle.

For five days, April 3-7, Ryan's 400 soldiers fought pitched battles with militants using Abrams tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles. No Americans died, but hundreds of Iraqis did and much of the town was damaged.

The battalion took control of Abu Ghraib, but it was the worst kind of occupation, Ryan said. There was a curfew and numerous checkpoints were set up. Soldiers searched every vehicle and person entering town and no one liked it.

But Ryan also was learning about Iraqi culture. While the councils had political power, he realized he needed the help of tribal and religious leaders to ease tensions. "When I met with this one sheik, from the Tamimi tribe, he told me I was the first coalition official to ever talk to him," Ryan recalled.

At another meeting, Ryan was offering cash for a construction project when "one guy said to me, 'We don't want your money, we want your respect.' That stuck with me." On May 1, Ryan called a meeting of all the tribal and religious sheiks at a milk-bottling plant, which had an auditorium that could seat several hundred. There was no electricity and the heat was stifling.

The first two hours saw a relentless tongue-lashing from the sheiks, a litany of perceived injustices by American troops. Ryan said it was hard to take at times.

"They are frustrated and if the idea is to diffuse their frustrations, that means letting them put those frustrations on the table," he said. "As the leader of the tribe - the tribal sheik of the men in desert camouflage - my job is to listen to them."

Then for six hours, Ryan did some things U.S. officers say is "outside the box."

First, he told the sheiks both sides had made mistakes.

"Just saying we've made mistakes - we've been afraid to say it because people will blow it out of proportion - makes a huge difference," Ryan said. "... Their faces lightup and they are ready to talk."

Then he offered a clean slate, or as they say in Arabic, a white page. If the sheiks took responsibility for security, Ryan told them, he promised that his soldiers would not raid their homes.

Further, he said, if the sheiks promised that members of their tribes sought by U.S. forces would stop carrying out attacks, the troops would stop hunting them.

All the sheiks agreed, and the deal has become known as "The White Page Truce."

"This is the best move the Americans have made yet," said Sheik Sadi al-Khinani, a senior tribal leader. "The people will see that the Americans have come here to help them, not what others have said, which is that the Americans have come here to abuse them."

Ryan said that in the six weeks from March 1 to April 12, 28 U.S. soldiers were wounded and two killed. In the six weeks since the truce, there hasn't been a single U.S. casualty.

"Part of the challenge here is that we've targeted the other side as criminals instead of combatants," Ryan said, explaining that he wanted a cease-fire, not trials. "In two months, we threw 107 people in jail and it didn't change the number of attacks. I haven't thrown anyone in jail for six weeks and attacks are down 50 percent."

Ryan now regularly shares meals with sheiks and uses their method of conflict resolution. If an Iraqi is killed by mistake, or property is damaged, the Army compensates the family through the tribal system.

"We've got folks who want to solve the problems," he said. "We need to respect their culture and their leaders."

Higher headquarters has sent people to study Ryan's methods. In many ways, he has done on a small scale in Abu Ghraib what the United States will do on June 30: give Iraqis their sovereignty.

Al-Khinani said American actions will speak louder than words.

The handover "is very important because this will cut the amount of anger by 50 percent," he said. "The terrorists, they are telling people the Americans will never pull out. This will show the honesty of American forces by transferring power."

NOTE: This article courtesy of the Associated Press.

U.S. Army LTC
Tim Ryan, of the
2nd Bn,12th
Cav Reg. visits
a home in Abu
Ghraib, on the
out-skirts of
Baghdad, Iraq,
June 17, 2004,
while
investigating a
nearby mortar
attack Ryan is
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religious



leaders in the town of Abu Ghraib and is offering a new beginning in which they would be partners, not adversaries. So far, the deal has worked, and is being looked at as a potential model for when Iraqis regain sovereignty June 30. (AP Photo/Jim MacMillan) RAINBOW READY NEWS is a Command Information product of the 42nd ID (M) PAO for division's post-mobilization training program.

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